

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 3-8, 10-29, 32-34, 36-39, 41-44, 51-53, 55-63 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 6,931,602 B1 to Silver et al. ("Silver"), in view of US Patent 6,836,287 B1 to Nakahara ("Nakahara").

The Examiner asserts that Nakahara disclosed vision tool parameters, citing col. 8, lines 46-61. However, Nakahara has NOTHING to do with machine vision in that Nakahara never teaches a vision tool. Although a machine vision system can include a camera, a system having a camera is NOT necessarily a machine vision system. For example, a home video system that includes a camera is NOT a machine vision system. An industrial video security system with a plurality of cameras that display a sequence of views on a security monitor is NOT a machine vision system.

A computer system is a machine vision system ONLY if the system includes a machine vision tool, i.e., a module that interprets images. The images do NOT have to originate from a local camera. The images can be stored and/or transmitted prior to interpretation.

Since Nakahara clearly does not teach a machine vision system, it is also clear that Nakahara does not teach machine vision parameters.

The parameters taught by Nakahara at col. 8, lines 46-61 relate to "the camera control server 105, the image server 106, quality of a moving image, limitations in connection", whereas claim 1 requires:

"validating said image data, said vision tool, and said at least one vision tool parameter, at said remotely located second computer".

A camera control server 105 is neither image data, nor is it a vision tool.

An image server 106 is neither image data, nor is it a vision tool.

"quality of a moving image" is irrelevant to machine vision systems, since machine vision systems freeze motion by acquiring and interpreting still images. Moreover, "quality" is not defined or disclosed.

"limitations in connection" is not a reference to a machine vision system.

The Examiner has also asserted that col. 4, lines 41-43 of Silver is suggestive of "validation". However, Silver teaches away from Applicant's invention because it says that "JAVA script commands ... may be used to perform vision parameter checking locally before passing the parameters from the web browser to the machine vision tool computer". By contrast, Applicant's claim 1 requires "validating ... at least one vision tool parameter, at said remotely located second computer".

The Examiner also cites col. 7, lines 30-48, but this also discusses the activity of a user acting locally to indicate diagnostics (e.g., col. 7, lines 30-31).

Also, Nakahara, col. 1, lines 7-14, does NOT disclose any machine vision functionality, because Nakahara is merely an image distribution system, not an image interpretation system (machine vision system).

Thus, there is nothing in Silver or Nakahara that teaches, suggests, or motivates combining one with the other. Moreover, Silver actually teaches away from combining, as explained above. Further, even if the teachings of these references were combined, the result would NOT be Applicant's invention, since Nakahara does NOT repair the deficiency of Silver. Accordingly, the rejection of claim 1 is deemed to be overcome.

Moreover, since independent claims 19, 39, and 51 also have been amended such that each now requires either a "validator", as shown as element 408 in Fig. 4 of Applicant's specification, or the act of "validating", as set forth in elements P602 and/or P604 of Fig. 6, these claims are also deemed to be allowable for analogous reasons.

Further, since claims 3-8, 10-18, 20-29, 32-34, 36-38, 41-44, 52-53, 55-63 depend from one of claims 1, 19, 39, and 51, all independent claims deemed to be allowable for the reasons set forth herein, these dependent claims are also deemed to be allowable.

Claim 30 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Silver in view of Nakahara, and further in view of US Patent 5,928,335 to Morita ("Morita"). However, Morita fails to teach a "validator" as claimed, and therefore

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fails to remedy the deficiency of the combination of Silver and Nakahara, and therefore the combination of Silver, Nakahara, and Morita does NOT result in Applicant's invention as claimed. Accordingly, the rejection of claim 30 is deemed to be overcome.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon does not appear to present an impediment to the allowance of the present claims.

Accordingly, Applicants assert that the present application is in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to phone the undersigned attorney to further the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully Submitted,

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